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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	12088/044001
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (# known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AA*	US-3,498,684	03-03-1970	A. D. Hallaman		
AB*	US-3,120,409	02-04-1964	C. T. Beall		
AC*	US-20050116540-A1	06-02-2005	Kaloth et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number-Kind Code ⁴ (# known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
BA	GB-2229410 A	09-26-1990	Fukuyama Rubber Ind		
BB	FR-1013382	07-28-1952	Paul-Pierre-Henri Plante		
BC	DE-3435486 A1	04-18-1985	Pirelli		
BD	GB-2138534 A	10-24-1984	Pirelli		
BE	EP-1211169 A2	06-05-2002	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co Ltd		
BF	JP-2003-327176	11-19-2003	Sumitomo Rubber Ind		✓
BG	WO-03/078239	09-25-2003	Fukuyama Rubber Ind et al.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(e)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	CA	Supplementary European Search Report issued in EP Application No. 04818947 dated February 6, 2007 (3 pages)	
	CB	Notification of Examiner's Reasons of Rejection issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-515640; Dated 02/13/2007; 3 pages (non-English)	
	CC	English translation of Notification of Examiner's Reasons of Rejection issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-515640; Dated 02/13/2007; 4 pages	

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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature 230317	/Jason Bellinger/	Date Considered	05/23/2008
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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.R.B./